

REPORT
ON THE
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
OF
THE TIPPERA STATE

FOR THE YEAR

1326 T. E.

(1916—17 A.D.)



AGARTALA.

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1327 T. E.

RESOLUTION
ON THE
Administration Report of the State,
FOR THE YEAR 1326 T. E.
(CORRESPONDING TO 1916-17 A.D.)

Read the Report on the General Administration of the State and the attached Zemindaries for the year 1326 T. E., Dated the 9th July 1917, as submitted by Babu Prasanna Kumar Das Gupta B. A., Chief Dewan of the State, under cover of his letter No. nil, of the 23rd idem.

With the dreadful "World-war" paralysing all trade, and unfavourable weather conditions handicapping agriculture, the year under report proved even more unpropitious than its predecessor, and the pinch of the situation was felt by all sections of people in the State.

Condition of the people. The average rainfall of the year was below the normal but heavy showers in autumn brought on floods that damaged crops and necessitated relief measures, while the failure of the cotton market was an aggravating factor which materially affected the *Joomia* and occasioned a substantial falling off in the revenue.

The finances of the year. The gross income of the State during the year amounted to Rs. 10,39,778 against Rs. 10,85,894 of the previous year and Rs. 10,60,860 the quinquennial average. As compared with the preceding year, there was thus a net decrease of Rs. 46,116 resulting from a total increase of Rs. 45,511 in respect of nine heads of income, set off against an aggregate decline of Rs. 91,627, in regard to twelve. To the total increase of the year, land revenue with Nazarana realised in settlement operations contributed Rs. 35,061, while out of the total decrease, royalty on cotton accounted for as much as Rs. 60,840 and the export duty on forest produce, Rs. 22,523. It is gratifying that the falling off was exclusively limited to the more unstable sources of revenue and that all stable heads showed a steady increase inspite of adverse circumstances. The gross receipts in the Zemindaries amounted to Rs. 8,76,160 against Rs. 7,50,404 in 1325 and Rs. 8,94,579 the average for the last five years. The increase of Rs. 1,25,756 as compared with the previous year shows a substantial recovery of arrears after an unusually bad year. With the opening balance of the year, law charges recovered, refunds and deposits, the total amount available for expenditure was Rs. 26,36,337 against Rs. 24,51,891 in the preceding year; while the total expenditure came up to Rs. 19,57,077 against Rs. 18,43,327. There was thus a

closing balance of Rs. 6,79,260 ; Rs. 1,41,910 of which was in cash, and Rs. 5,37,350, in bonds and advances, including "some unadjusted payments". Both in the State and Zemindaries there was some increase in the Administration charges, while His Highness notices a heavy rise in the law charges in Chakla which amounted to Rs. 1,30,869 against Rs. 92,967 of the previous year. His Highness would enquire in reference to the financial statement of the year, why heavy figures should remain as unadjusted advances, and out of these he notices in particular an item of Rs. 88,344 on account of his own tour and pilgrimage expenses.

The policy of the retention of a separate settlement staff under the direct control of the Revenue Department, tentatively adopted during the year, seems to have been justified by the success of the measure, inspite of difficulties. A net increase of Rs. 20,063 to the demand with a Nazarana of Rs. 31,184 assessed resulted from the resettlement operations of the year against an increased Jama of Rs. 5,812 in the year previous, while the aggregate addition to the land revenue demand fetched by settlement work generally stood at Rs. 55,702 against Rs. 25,699. His Highness will watch with interest the progress of tea settlements in the State.

Land Settlement. The collection of land revenue though comparatively satisfactory did not keep pace with the increase in the demand and the gradual falling off of the percentage calls for, in His Highness's opinion, a thorough enquiry with a view to the adoption of definite remedial measures.

Land Revenue collection. Forest revenue shows a decline and reference has been made in the report among other causes to some complications with the British forest authorities. These should, in His Highness's opinion, be promptly attended to. Khas management of forest ghats though sound on principle must needs look to close supervision and inspection for its success and His Highness hopes that this aspect of the question has not been and will not be lost sight of.

Forests. As compared with the previous year the police section reports an increase of crime with a falling off of the percentage of conviction. There was an improvement however in respect of the recovery of stolen property while the percentage of charge sheets shows a satisfactory advance.

Police. There was some increase in the number of both original criminal and civil cases with a slight decline in the percentage of disposals. In criminal appeals the number of disposals was 172 with 7 cases pending at the close of the year as against 188 with 19 pending cases in the year preceding, while the corresponding figures for civil appeals were 186 with 28 pending cases against 208 with 44. The percentage of judgments upheld in civil appeals was unsatisfactory, being 43.7 only against 64.7 while the percentage of conviction in cases before Magistrates was comparatively low. The result of sessions cases seems to be satisfactory.

Administration of justice.

There was a slight falling off during the year in the total numerical strength of schools under State management though the number of private Pathshalas rose from 28 to 29 with a corresponding addition to the number on the rolls. Two schools were raised to the Matriculation standard and a scale of fees introduced for the first time in High English Schools mainly with a view to the provision of extra funds for meeting the demand for accessories. Some new measures were adopted in pursuit of a scheme of improvement the results whereof will be watched by His Highness with interest.

A few important Public works were taken up during the year both in the Sadar and the Muffasil. One would however wish that more funds could be devoted to the all-important work of improvement of communication and His Highness hopes that the difficulties now experienced in this direction will gradually disappear and that coming years will witness a rapid opening out of the country with a corresponding development of the different centres of population.

LET A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE SENT TO THE CHIEF DEWAN OF THE STATE FOR INFORMATION AND FAVOUR OF NECESSARY ACTION.

DATED, AGARTALA,
30th July,
4th August, 1917.

By order of His Highness
(*Sd.*) *B. K. Sen,*
Chief Secretary.

Dated, Agartala, the 20th July 1917.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I have the honour to submit the accompanying Report on the General Administration of the State and the attached Zemindaries for the year 1326 T.E., extending from the 14th April 1916 to the 13th April 1917.

I have the honour to be,
YOUR HIGHNESS'S
Most obedient servant.

P. K. Das Gupta,

Chief Dewan.

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REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION

OF

THE TIPPERA STATE

FOR

1326 T. E. (1916-17.)

CHAPTER I—GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

Area of the State—4,086 sq. miles.

Population—2,29,613.

Gross Revenue (based on the average of the previous five years) :—

(a) State	...	...	...	...	...	Rs. 10,60,771.
(b) Zemindaries	...	...	...	...	...	Rs. 8,94,579.

Tribute—Nil.

Ruler of the State—His Highness The Bisama-Samara-Bijayee Mahamahodaya Pancha-Srijukta Raja Birendrakishore Dev Barman Manikya Bahadur. *Age*—34 years. *Caste*—Kshatriya (of the Lunar race).

Heir—Sri-ia Srijukta BirBikramkishore Dev Barman, Jubaraj Goswami Bahadur.

1. The year was by no means a prosperous one. An extraordinary flood in October well-nigh destroyed the winter crop, and the war affected the cotton and the timber trade—two important sources of revenue and support of a vast body of the tenantry. The prices of all necessary commodities were high and the pinch was generally experienced by all classes of people.

General condition of the year.

2. His Highness left the capital on the 23rd October last with the object of attending the Conference of Ruling Chiefs at Delhi, but to his great regret and disappointment fell ill in Calcutta and could not attend the Conference. His Highness was in Calcutta till the 21st January with a short pilgrimage to Puri between the 12th and the 24th November, 1916. His Highness was present at the reception at the Government House on the public arrival of His Excellency the Viceroy in Calcutta, and there was exchange of ceremonial visits between His Excellency and His Highness on the 26th December. On the 10th January His Highness attended the Pageant in aid of the War Fund in the Government House compound in which the Jubaraj Bahadur took a part.

His Highness's movements.

3. His Highness returned to the capital on the 22nd January. On the 15th March His Highness left for Calcutta again with the object of bidding farewell to the retiring Governor and welcoming Lord Ronaldshay. On the 21st March His Highness had an informal interview with Lord Carmichael and on the same day received His Excellency informally at His Highness's Ballyganj house. His Highness was present at the Government House to receive Lord Ronaldshay on His Excellency's arrival in Calcutta on the 26th March, and had a private interview with His Excellency on the following day. His Highness left Calcutta the same day arriving at the capital on the 28th March.

4. A Kumari was born to His Highness on the 25th February 1917.
Domestic event.

5. Two important measures were taken up during the year under review with the object of developing the resources of the territory. The first was to throw open the extensive waste lands of the State for tea cultivation which was not hitherto allowed and the second was the issue of an exploring license (for minerals) to the Burmah Oil Company Ltd. As regards tea settlement, negotiations have been concluded with three parties and two have already started work. The Burmah Oil Company's geologists made extensive tours in the territory last cold weather. The results of their investigations have not yet been reported.

6. Two new sub-divisions were created with head-quarters at Kalyanpur and Amarapur.
Creation of 2 Sub-divisions.

7. Babu Prasanna Kumar Das Gupta continued as Chief Dewan. He was on privilege leave for 1 month and 21 days from the 1st Falgoon (13th February 1917) when Dewan Bijay Kumar Sen officiated for him.
Charge.

8. The Chief Dewan was out on tour for 99 days and inspected the Divisional offices at Khowai, Sonamura, and Udaipur and the Sub-divisional offices at Kalyanpur and Amarapur. He also inspected the other public institutions at these places. He had to visit Comilla a number of times in connection with his work as Manager Chakla Roshnabad Estates, and inspected a number of Tehsils and Law offices in Chakla. He was unable to make longer tour as he was detained at head-quarters for sometime during His Highness's stay in Calcutta, and as he was on leave towards the close of the year.
Chief Dewan's tour.

9. Mr. J. Bartley, I.C.S., continued as Political Agent and visited Khowai, Kalyanpur, Sonamura and Udaipur. He was present at the exchange of visits between His Excellency the Viceroy and His Highness in Calcutta in December last.
Political Agent.

10. The Divisional Commissioner paid a visit to Agartala in February last.
Commissioner's visit.

11. A small war gift was made in the shape of 800 shirts costing Rs. 1,812 for the 11th Rajputs serving in Mesopotamia. Her Highness the Maharani paid a donation of Rs. 700 to the Lady Carmichael Fund through Mrs. K. C. De.
War gifts.

CHAPTER II—LAND ADMINISTRATION.

12. The total area held under settlement at the close of the year was 434 sq. miles against 404 and 392 sq. miles respectively of the previous two years, as detailed below :—

Kinds of settlement.	Area in square miles.		Increase.	Decrease.	REMARKS.
	1326 T.E.	1325 T.E.			
<i>Jotes</i> ...	214	195	19	—	
<i>Taluks</i> ...	220	209	11	—	
Total ...	434	404	30	—	

13. A special feature of the year's land settlement was the grant, for the first time in the history of the State, of some tea settlements in the Kailashahar and the Dharmanagar Divisions. There were altogether 3 such settlements during the year, two in Kailashahar and one in Dharmanagar and there has been one more settlement in the latter division since the close of the year. The *jama* in each case is enhanceable every 20 years and is Rs. 8 per drone with a Nazarana amounting to a year's revenue. The total approximate area of the grants is 8000 acres (2000 acres each) or 1260 drones which will bring in a revenue of about Rs. 10,000 a year, after 3 years of exemption. Rs. 7,040 has already been received on account of Nazarana. The terms secured included the payment of an *advalorem* export duty or royalty of 2½ per cent on the Calcutta price.

14. The average *jama* per *kani* of jote land in khas mehals stood (exclusive of cesses) at as. 14 p. 1 against as. 14 p. 7 and as. 14 p. 8 respectively of the previous two years, while the rate in respect of *taluks* was as. 4 against as. 4 p. 2 per *kani*. The slight falling off of the rate in the case of *taluks* was due to the assessment on a comparatively large area of land found in excess of the original grant within the boundaries of a *taluk* with a rather low rate of *jama*. The maximum and minimum rates continued to be Rs. 5-13-6 and Anna 1 per *kani* for *jotes* and Re. 1-1-0 and As. 2 respectively for *taluks*.

15. The different sources of land revenue demand are shown in the following statement :—

Sources.	1326 T.E.	1325 T.E.
<i>Taluks</i>	Rs. 88,374	Rs. 86,824
<i>Khasmehal jotes</i>	„ 3,02,200	„ 2,86,559
<i>Bazars</i>	„ 6,595	„ 6,568
Cesses	„ 24,478	„ 22,743
Total	„ 4,21,647	„ 4,02,694

15. The total current demand was thus Rs. 4,21,647 against Rs. 4,02,694, the increase of Rs. 18,953 being due to settlement and resettlement operations as well as assessments on settled land at the end of the initial revenue free

period. The arrear demand was Rs. 4,68,862. The gross land revenue demand of the year thus came to Rs. 8,90,509 against Rs. 8,11,370.

17. The collections under the head amounted to Rs. 3,64,724 against Rs. 3,42,718; Rs. 2,39,341 of which represents realisation of the current and Rs. 1,25,383 that of the arrear demand. The percentage of current collection was rather unsatisfactory, being only 56·76 against 59·3, while collection of arrears showed some improvement. The falling off in the former case was mainly due to heavy floods in several divisions specially in Kailashahar which necessitated relief measures and advances to tenants.

18. There were in all 4,616 certificate cases during the year covering an aggregate land revenue demand of Rs. 1,54,853. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 4,369 and Rs. 1,48,183 respectively. The total amount realised under the procedure was Rs. 51,529 against Rs. 41,391. The percentage of recovery under the certificate procedure was 33·21 against 32·65. Altogether 2,269 cases or 46·55 percent of the total number came to a successful termination. Owing to the effects of floods there was a marked rise in the number of defaulting *taluks* specially in the Kailashahar Division, the total coming up to 141; only 17 *taluks* were actually sold off in operation of the sunset law, while 73 were restored on payment of the prescribed penalty. 51 cases remained pending at the close of the year.

19. The results of the re-survey operations are detailed below :—

Names of Divisions.	Quantity of land in <i>drones</i> surveyed in 1326 T. E.			Quantity of land in <i>drones</i> surveyed in 1325 T. E.			REMARKS.
	Taluki land.	Khas mehal land.	Total.	Taluki land.	Khas mehal land.	Total.	
1. Sadar Division ...	483	1,422	1,904	63	1,338	1,401	
2. Kailashahar „ ...	379	—	379	127	72	199	
3. Soqamura „ ...	—	205	205	89	240	329	
4. Bilania „ ...	30	1,056	1,086	95	685	780	
5. {Khowai „ ...	9	—	9				
{with Kalyanpur „ ...				124	22	146	
Sub-Division ...	255	—	255				
	264	—	264				
6. Dharmanagar „ ..	53	332	385	682	224	906	
7. {Udaipur „ ...	10	—	10				
{with Amarpur „ ...				202	384	586	
Sub-Division ...	—	—	—				
	10	—	10				
8. Sabroom „ ...	—	160	160	—	486	486	
TOTAL „ ...	1,219	3,175	4,394	1,382	3,451	4,833	

10. The subjoined comparative statement shows the results of the settlement operations :—

Nature of Settlement.	1326 T. E.		1325 T. E.		REMARKS.
	Area in drones.	Jama in whole rupees.	Area in drones.	Jama in whole rupees.	
1. Permanent <i>taluki</i> settlement of cultivated land ...	24	95	—	—	
2. Permanent <i>taluki</i> settlement of waste land ...	1,375	8	53	485	
3. <i>Taskhichi taluki</i> settlement of cultivated land ...	—	—	68	26	
4. <i>Taskhichi taluki</i> settlement of waste land ...	565	4,520	—	—	
5. <i>Jotedari</i> re-settlement of cultivated land ...	3,176	45,895	1,415	20,344	
6. <i>Jotedari</i> settlement of waste land.	676	5,184	636	4,844	
TOTAL ...	4,442,375	55,702	2,104,68	25,699	

21. It will be seen that an area of 4,442 drones came under settlement and fetched a *jama* of Rs. 55,702 against 2,104 drones with a *jama* of Rs. 25,699 in 1325 T. E.

22. There was no permanent settlement of land properly speaking within the year. The figure for "cultivated land" shown in (1) above represents the area within the boundaries of an old grant found in excess of the sanctioned area and assessed during the year, while the figure for waste land in (2) shows the *taluki* settlement sanctioned in respect of a piece of land found to be in the possession of a talukdar though outside the boundaries.

23. The settlement of 565 drones shown in the statement was for cultivation of tea and the figure represents the area covered by cases technically complete within the year as against the total of 1260 drones given in para 13 above.

24. The average *jama* per *Kani* secured in *jotedari* settlement of waste lands was as. 7 p. 8 against as. 7 p. 7 and as. 6 p. 2 respectively of the previous two years. The maximum rate obtained was Rs. 4 against Re. 1-12 and the minimum anna 1 against as. 4. The *jama* secured in *taluki* settlement was as. 5 per *Kani*.

25. The average rate per *Kani* obtained in *jotedari* re-settlement was as. 14 p. 5 against the same figure in the year preceding and as. 10 p. 1 only of the year before. The maximum rate being Rs. 5-14-0. A net increase of Rs. 20,063 in the demand was obtained by the operations against Rs. 5,812 of the previous year. The total amount of *nazarana* assessed was Rs. 31,184.

26. A special staff was retained during the year under the Revenue Department for settlement operations and Settlement work. 3 officers were deputed to the work, one of whom revised the *adila* and house-tax only. There was some difficulty about officers and the scheme sanctioned could not be fully carried out, but the results were, inspite of the difficulty, fairly satisfactory.

27. A cadastral survey of the Kailashahar Division was initiated during the year and some progress was made in Cadastral Survey. traverse operations.

28. The total expenditure incurred in survey and settlement Expenditure. operations was Rs. 10,358 against Rs. 7,533.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

I. Legislation.

29. The State Council was reconstituted by His Highness with State Council. 9 official and 4 non-official members. Their functions were partly legislative and partly judicial, three of the members forming a Privy Council for hearing appeals to His Highness which were regulated by an enactment passed during the year. There was satisfactory co-operation between the official and the non-official members. There were ten sittings of the council during the year for legislative purpose.

30. The following laws were enacted during the year :—

- Laws.
- i. Act I of 1326 T.E.—Appeals to His Highness and the Privy Council.
 - ii. Act II of 1326 T.E.—Registration of Births and Deaths.
 - iii. Act III of 1326 T.E.—Vaccination Act.
 - iv. Act IV of 1326 T.E.—Public Demands Recovery Act.
 - v. Act V of 1326 T.E.—An amendment of the Excise Act.

31. The following important regulations were promulgated Important rules. during the year under review :—

1. Revenue circulars :—
 - (a) Circular No. 1 of 2-2-26 T.E.—Maintenance of a complete rent-roll for the Khas mahal.
 - (b) Circular No. 4 of 19-4-26 T.E.—Revision of house-tax and Chaukidari tax.
 - (c) Circular No. 12 of 16-8-26 T.E.—Duty on a variety of oil-seeds and hemp.
2. Forest Circulars :—
 - (a) Circular No. 4 of 25-3-26 T.E.—Appointment of permit agents, their security and commission.
 - (b) Circular No. 5 of 4-8-26 T.E.—Revision of duty on timber for encouraging establishment of timber factories within the territory.
 - (c) Circular No. 6 of 1-10-26 T.E.—Felling of trees for reclamation.

3. Municipal :—
By-law No. 731 of 22-4-26 T.E.—About carriage licenses.
 4. Education :—
Circular about curriculum of studies in different classes of schools.
 5. Political and Appointment Department :—
(a) Circular No. 1 of 1326 T.E.—Regulating applications for employment elsewhere by State servants.
(b) Circular No. 3 of 1326 T.E.—Management of permanent advance and prescribing certain registers thereabout.
 6. Accounts Department :—
(a) Gradation of ministerial officers.
(b) Maintenance of Public Works Khatians.
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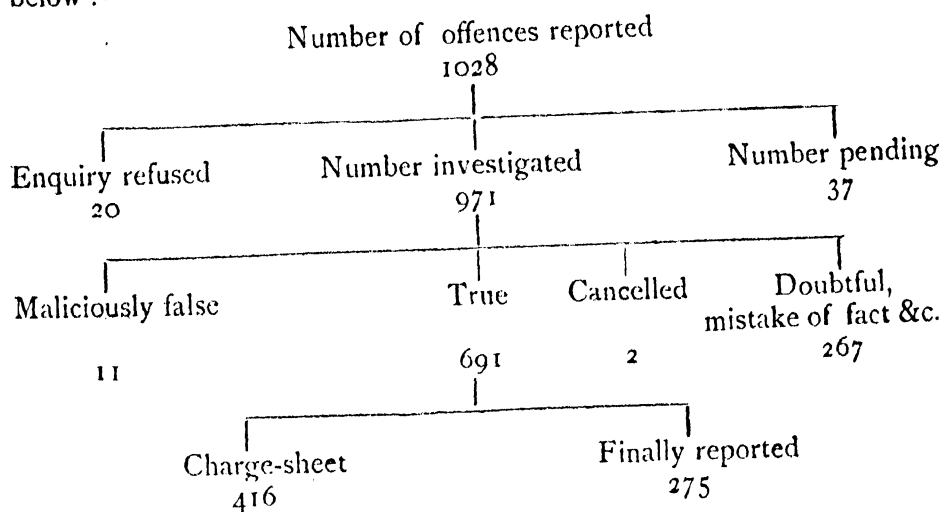
II. Military.

32. Kumar Dinamohan Deb Barman continued in charge of the force. 1 Lieutenant, 1 A. D. C., 2 Havildars and 23 Sepoys were added to the force during the year.
Strength. The Sepoys and the Havildars were needed for the newly-created Sub-divisions at Amarpur and Kalyanpur. There were 224 men at the end of the previous year. Of them 1 died and 27 men including a Havildar were discharged. 17 Sepoys were appointed to existing vacancies. Thus the force stood at 240 at the end of the year under review, including the officers.
 33. The men were generally employed on sentry and escort duty and took part on ceremonial occasions.
 34. The total cost of maintaining the force was Rs. 33,050 against Rs. 30,152 in the previous year, the increased expenditure was due to the added posts.
Expenditure.
 35. The new recruits were regularly drilled and trained, as usual.
Drill.
-

III. Police.

36. Thakur Kamini Kumar Singha held the post of Superintendent of Police throughout the year under review.
Charge.
37. The strength of the Police force was 342 including Chaukidars, against 278 in the previous year. The increase is due to the opening of two Sub-divisions, Amarpur and Kalyanpur, and the addition of some Chaukidars distributed over the whole territory, their number having been quite inadequate for watch and ward. The proportion of the Police force to population was 1 to 671 and that to area 1 to 11.94 square miles.
Strength.
38. The number of cases reported to the Police was 1,028 against 994 in the previous year. The increase of crime is due in the number of petty thefts ascribable to scarcity and flood in this territory and the neighbouring British districts.
Crime.

39. The results of investigation will appear from the table below :—



40. The two cases shown as "cancelled" were transferred to the British Police the place of occurrence being in British territory.

41. 704 persons were arrested during the year against 512 in the year previous. 632 persons were reported in charge sheets of whom 47 were acquitted on compromise, 16 on withdrawal of the cases concerned, 85 persons were let off on trial, 3 were absconding and 149 persons were awaiting trial at the end of the year. 332 persons were convicted against 298 in the previous year, giving a percentage of 79.61 against 88.69 in the previous year.

42. Of 28 cases pending under Police investigation at the end of 1325 T. E. 9 were reported in charge-sheets against 11 persons. These with 86 persons who were under trial at the end of 1325 T. E. made a total of 97 of whom 47 were convicted, 40 let off and 9 persons awaited trial at the end of the year under review and one is absconding.

43. The properties reported as stolen during the year have been valued at Rs. 11,237-3-3 of which Rs. 2,713-3-9 was in cash and Rs. 3,387-1-9 as otherwise incapable of identification; of this properties worth Rs. 4,121-11-9 have been recovered, giving a percentage of 36.6 against 31.2 in the previous year. It may be noted that the proportion incapable of identification covers over 54 percent of the value stolen.

44. There was no case under the Arms Act during the year under report.

45. During the year under review 1 Constable had a reward of Rs. 10 and another of Rs. 5 for securing the arrest of absconders. A Police spy also received Rs. 5 for similar work. Some of the Police officers were rewarded and favourably mentioned in connection with revenue and forest work.

46. One Inspector, one Daroga, one Naib-Daroga and 21 Constables were discharged, most of them for over-staying leave. Two Naib-Darogas and three Constables were suspended, and one Jamadar and one Constable were reduced and 12 Constables fined for minor dereliction of duty.

47. There were 5 co-operation meetings between the British and the State Police which led to important results in regard to the control of bad-characters and prevention of crime.
- Co-operation.
48. The Superintendent of Police was out on tour for 76 days and the Assistant Superintendent of Police for 14 days.
- Tour.
49. Rs. 43,433 was spent on the police force during the year under report against Rs. 39,839 in the previous year.
- Expenditure.
50. 7 persons were prosecuted for badliveliness of whom 6 were bound down and 1 let off.
- Miscellaneous.

IV. Justice.

51. The constitution of a Privy Council to hear appeals to His Highness in certain classes of civil suits and criminal cases, was an important step taken during the year under report. The council was composed of three members *viz* : the Chief Dewan, the Chief Judge and the Private Secretary. There were three appeals one of which was summarily rejected after preliminary hearing and two were pending at the close of the year.
- Privy Council.
52. There were 14 other Courts of Justice in the State during the year under report, exercising both civil and criminal jurisdiction *viz.*—the Khas Adalat or the Chief Court with its original and appellate sides and 13 courts of Magistrate-Munsiffs exercising original jurisdiction only.
- Courts.
53. Altogether 1,487 original criminal cases were instituted during the year under report. With the balance of 227 pending from 1325 T. E. the total number of cases for disposal before the several subordinate courts was 1,714 as against 1,687 of the previous year, as detailed below :—
- Number of original criminal cases.

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCES.	1325 T. E.	1326 T. E.
Offences against the State and public tranquillity	68	89
Offences against person	405	361
Offences against property	867	931
Other offences	347	333
TOTAL	1,687	1,714

54. The total number of persons awaiting trial in the year under review inclusive of the number pending from the previous year was 1,541. The number actually brought to trial was 1,352 as against 1,318 of the past year. Of these, 532 were arrested by the Police, 273 were produced on warrants, 402 appeared on summonses, 138 appeared voluntarily and 7 were arrested in the presence of Magistrates.
- Persons brought to trial.

55. Out of the 1,541 accused persons 399 were discharged without trial, 325 were acquitted and 498 convicted, while 1 escaped, 12 were transferred and 306 remained under trial at the close of the year. Of the persons convicted 169 were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment extending from 1 month to 10 years, 322 to fine only and 7 persons were released
- Results of the cases.

on bail. The number of persons actually tried was 823 as against 836 of the previous year, and the percentage of conviction was thus 60.51 as against 65.07 of the last year.

56. Of the 1,714 cases for disposal, the number in which British subjects were concerned was 526 as against 508 of the previous year. Out of these 526 cases 390 were cognizable and 136 non-cognizable. In 49 cases British subjects were complainants, in 346 they were the accused. In 131 cases both the parties were British subjects. In these cases 503 persons were actually under trial during the year as against 426 of the previous year. Of them 228 were convicted, 160 acquitted or discharged and 115 were awaiting trial at the close of the year.

57. The statement below compares the number of original criminal cases during the last 2 years.

DESCRIPTION OF OFFENCES.	1925 T.E.	1926 T.E.	Increase.	Decrease.
Offences against the State and public tranquillity ...	57	73	16	—
Offences against person	369	318	—	51
Offences against property	736	810	80	—
Other offences	318	280	—	38
TOTAL	1,480	1,487	96	89 (Net increase 7)

58. Requisitions for extradition warrants were issued to the Political Agent for the surrender of 70 accused persons, of whom 22 were surrendered on arrest, 24 persons appeared voluntarily and 24 were at large at the close of the year. Of the 46 persons who were surrendered or appeared voluntarily, 12 were convicted, 1 discharged, and 33 were awaiting trial at the close of the year. Of persons against whom extradition was applied for in previous years 2 were surrendered and 8 appeared voluntarily. Of them 5 were convicted and 5 discharged.

59. 12 cases were committed to the Sessions during the year under review. This added to 4 cases, with 5 persons, pending from the previous year made a total of 16 cases. Out of these 16 cases 15 were disposed of as shown in the table below. The number of persons involved in these cases was 18, of whom 13 were convicted, 1 discharged without trial, 3 acquitted, while 1 remained under trial at the close of the year.

Description of cases.	Number of cases.	Disposed of.	Pending.	REMARKS.
Murder	2	2	—	
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder	6	5	1	
Using counterfeit British coin &c. ...	1	1	—	
Arson	1	1	—	
Attempt to commit rape	1	1	—	
Falsification of accounts	1	1	—	
Simple hurt	1	1	—	
Grievous hurt	1	1	—	
Kidnapping	1	1	—	
Abduction	1	1	—	
Total	16	15	1	

60. There were altogether 179 criminal appeals as against 207 of the previous year. They were disposed of as below :—

Rejected	...	...	...	9
Judgment affirmed	...	...	...	66
Modified	...	...	...	32
Reversed	...	...	...	60
Further enquiry ordered	...	...	...	5
				<hr/>
				172
Pending	...	...	...	7
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	179

61.* The percentage of judgments upheld or modified was 59.5 as against 60.6 of the preceding year.

62. The number of original civil suits instituted during the year increased by 84, being 1,656 against 1,572 of the previous year. With the preceding year's balance of 559 suits, the total number for disposal was 2,215. Out of these, 1,515 suits were disposed of as follows :—

Exparte	...	...	...	611
Admitted and compromised	...	...	...	266
Dismissed for want of prosecution	...	...	...	200
Disposed of on contest	...	...	...	438
				<hr/>
				1,515
Pending	...	...	...	700
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	2,215

63. The average duration of suits before the civil courts was 2 months and 14 days as against 2 months and 19 days in 1325 T. E.

64. The total value of the suits instituted during the year was Rs. 1,43,056-3-9 as against Rs. 1,04,526-14-0 which gives an average of Rs. 86-6-2 as the value per case. Of the 1,656 suits instituted during the year under report, 504 related to land, 878 to money transactions and 274 to other transactions. There were 1,164 suits of the value of Rs. 100 and under ; 277 suits of over Rs. 100 and below Rs. 500 ; 12 suits of over Rs. 500 and below Rs. 1,000 ; 4 suits of over Rs. 1,000 and below Rs. 5,000 ; and 5 suits above the value of Rs. 5000 ; while 194 suits were not estimable in money value.

65. The number of applications for execution of decrees filed during the year was 597 and with 319 pending cases the total number was 916 as against 848 of the previous year. The aggregate value of the new applications was Rs. 67,568-9-6 and with the opening balance of Rs. 44,297-4-6, being the value of the pending cases, the total amounted to Rs. 1,11,865-14. The number of applications disposed of was 592 the value of which was Rs. 76,109-11-3. The number of execution cases pending at the close of the year was 324 with the value of Rs. 35,756-2-9.

66. There were 170 civil appeals filed during the year under report as against 174 of the previous year. With the past year's balance of 44, the total for disposal was 214 against 252 of 1325 T. E. Out of these 186 were disposed of during the year under report against 208 of the previous year, leaving a balance of 28 cases at the close of the year.

67. The following figures indicate the results of appeals :—

Results of appeals.				
Decisions confirmed ...	...	...	...	85
" reversed ...	...	...	...	46
" modified ...	...	...	...	10
" remanded ...	...	...	...	10
Compromised or otherwise disposed of ...				35
				<u>186</u>

68. The percentage of judgments wholly or partially upheld excluding the cases compromised was 43'7 as against 64'7 of the previous year.

69. The total value of the appeals filed during the year under report was Rs. 13952-7-6 p. and the average duration of each appeal 3 months and 20 days as against 3 months and 28 days of the previous year.

70. In the original side of the Khas Adalat 27 applications were filed for the grant of succession and other certificates during the year. With the balance of 8, the total number of cases was 35, out of which 30 were disposed of as shown below, leaving 5 cases pending at the close of the year.

Description of cases.	Total.	Disposed of.	Pending.
Probate case ...	1	1	—
Succession certificate ...	16	13	3
Guardianship ...	18	16	2
Total ...	35	30	5

71. Thus it will appear from the subjoined table that the total number of civil and criminal appeals inclusive of the number pending from previous year was 393 as against 459 of the last year, and out of these 393 appeals 358 were disposed of as against 396 of the previous year. The difference is due to the fact that no less than 95 appeals were pending at the end of 1324 T. E. whereas there were 63 appeals pending at the end of 1325 T. E. Only 35 appeals awaited disposal at the end of the year under report.

Description of appeals.	Number of appeals.		Disposed of.	
	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.
Civil ...	252	214	208	186
Criminal ...	207	179	188	172
Total ...	459	393	396	358

V. Prisons.

72. The number of jails increased by two with the two new Sub-Divisions. There were thus 10 jails with a population of 716 against 686 in the previous year, of whom 347 were convicts, 358 undertrial men, 7 were civil prisoners and 4 lunatics. The daily average was 96·87 against 101·85.

Number of prisons and prisoners.

73. 57 persons were under sentences of over two years against 70 in the previous year as shown in the statement below :—

Long-term prisoners.

Class of offence.	Number of prisoners.	Occupation.	REMARKS.
Murder	14	They were employed in oilmills, brick and soorki making, bamboo work, earth-work and gardening.	* Of these 4 were life convicts, 2 under sentence. of 10 to 14 years, 12 from 5 to 10 years, and 39 from 2 to 5 years.
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder ...	18		
Rioting and grievous hurt ...	2		
Forgery	1		
Counterfeiting coin ...	5		
Rape	1		
Robbery	1		
Obstruction to public servant in his duty ...	1		
Dacoity	8		
Theft	6		
Total	*57		

74. Two convicts and one under-trial prisoner died in the Sadar jail.

VI. Registration.

75. The number of Registration offices was 10 against 8 of the previous year, two new offices being opened one at each of the two new Sub-Divisional headquarters, Amarpur and Kalyanpur, the Sub-Divisional Officers acting as Registrars.

Registration offices.

76. There were 8,902 deeds presented for registration against 8,734 of the previous year. Of this number 100 were refused registration, 8,764 were registered and 38 remained pending at the end of the year. Of the 71 deeds remaining pending from the previous year 50 were registered, 11 refused registration and 10 remained pending.

Presentation and disposal.

77. The total money value of the deeds presented for registration was Rs. 12,75,812 and of those registered was Rs. 12,55,714 against Rs. 11,52,107 and Rs. 11,30,932 respectively of the previous year.

78. There were 41 suits and 2 appeals against 19 suits and 3 appeals in the previous year.

Suits and appeals.

79. The income from fees was Rs. 8,865 against Rs. 9,643 and total expenditure Rs. 2,952 against Rs. 2,895 in the previous year; the net income from the Department being thus Rs. 5,913.

Income and expenditure.

VII. Municipality.

80. Agartala, the State capital, is the only municipal town in the State, and contains a population of 6,831, according to the last Census.

The Municipality.

81. During the year the limits of the Municipality were extended towards the east of the town. The population within the Municipality now would be about 7,000.

82. The Municipality worked under a Committee of 7, one of whom was the Chairman, and another the Vice-Chairman. The term of office of the Committee having expired the Committee had to be reconstructed and Dr. M. M. Majumdar, L. M. S., the State Physician, was re-appointed Chairman. The Committee lost one of its members in the person of the late Bahadur Srinibash Shaha Roy Chaudhuri. Mr. Shomendra Chandra Deb Barman, M. A., has been appointed to fill up the vacancy.

The Municipal Committee.

83. There were 17 sittings of the Committee in the year under review against 18 of the previous year. The percentage of the attendance of the commissioners was 65.5.

Its sittings.

84. The rates of municipal and latrine taxes continued as before. 1,722 persons were assessed for municipal tax and 453 holdings for latrine tax.

Assessment.

85. The income of the Municipality from municipal and latrine taxes was Rs. 3,013 in the year under review against Rs. 3,269 of the previous year, while the demand in taxes including arrears was Rs. 5,461 against Rs. 5,285 of the previous year. The fall in the municipal income might be explained by the general scarcity and high prices prevailing. This explains also the necessity of allowing reductions and remissions in certain cases. The income under head Miscellaneous was Rs. 1,726 against Rs. 1,169 of the previous year. This includes rates on hackney carriages, bullock carts, the income from pounds, the sale proceeds of the fruits of trees by the road side and sundry other small items.

Income.

86. The State grant in the year under review was Rs. 8,000 besides a specific grant of Rs. 1,000 from the same source for better provision for water-supply.

The State grant.

87. The floods of the previous year affected the general health of the town and fever in an epidemic form prevailed almost throughout the whole year. There were some sporadic cases of cholera ending in 17 deaths.

Health.

88. The Municipal Committee continued its attention to sources of water-supply for the town. But they could not spend the whole amount specially placed at their disposal for improving the water-supply. Only a small tank was excavated. The question of the improvement of the water-supply of the town is an urgent one and should seriously engage the attention of the Municipality. The Municipality was attentive towards improving the general sanitation of the town by keeping the drains in a good condition.

Sanitation.

89. The total expenditure incurred by the Municipality in the year under report was Rs. 13,381 against Rs. 11,567 of the previous year.

90. The Administration would take this opportunity to thank Babu Akshoy Kumar Banerjee, Contractor, for his public spirit and generosity in placing at the disposal of the Municipality a sum of Rs. 1,500 (fifteen hundred) for the purpose of erecting a rest-house at the town cremation-ghat for the use of the public.

CHAPTER IV—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

I. Weather and Crops—Agriculture.

91. The average rainfall of the year was 86.66 inches against 119.69 inches of the preceding year, and 107 inches of the past quinquennial period. The maximum fall of 107.81 inches was recorded at Sabrum while Sadar had the minimum record of 61.46 inches. The rainfall was the heaviest in Asvin averaging 19.98 inches. It was also sudden and caused a flood and damaged crops.

92. The rainfall was not seasonable. Floods were reported from Kailashahar, Sonamura and Khawai Divisions. Considerable damage to crops and some loss of animal life including that of cattle occurred in the first named division, while occasional drought and heavy rainfall damaged both *Aman* and *Aus* crops here and there. Both *til* and cotton suffered heavily and the outturn of the latter crop was unusually poor.

93. The loss of crops together with the failure of market in forest produce and cotton added to the prevailing war conditions all round affected the people seriously and both gratuitous relief and loans had to be arranged in some places. The total of pecuniary assistance sanctioned for the purpose amounted to Rs. 7,000.

94. The price of rice ranged between Rs. 3 and Rs. 8 a maund against Rs. 3-12 and Rs. 6-8 of the previous year. There was no noticeable variation in the usual rates of wages which ranged from *as.* 6 to *as.* 12 a day for males and *as.* 4 to *as.* 6 for females for ordinary labour, and *as.* 8 to Re. 1-4 per diem for skilled labour.

95. No fresh Taccavi advances were made in the year under report but help in seeds was given to the people in the Kailashahar Division whose *Aman* crop suffered owing to the flood of Aṣwin last. The people of Kailashahar cultivate only *Aus* and *Aman* paddy and scarcely go in for any new crops. The opportunity was taken to introduce the cultivation of some crops new to that quarter *e. g.*, the *Boro* paddy, the '*Musoori* and the '*Khesari* pulses and Potato. The results were satisfactory and the experiment has opened out to the people a new source of income.

96. The Nurseries of valuable timber trees started at the Kasi-pur Farm have been a success. But the cultivation of sugarcane and potato did not turn out as satisfactory.
97. The 4 breeding bulls, 2 of English and 2 of up-country breed, are becoming popular.
-

II. Immigration and Emigration.

98. 1,489 families immigrated into and 878 emigrated from the State during the year under report, against 1,540 and 911 respectively of the previous year.
-

III. Forest.

99. The Khas management of the Forests is now the established policy of the Administration. There was only one big river *mehal*, the *Gumti*, under *Ijara*, and the lease expired with the year but it was thought advisable to lease out the *mehal* again for a period of three years. Except this one *mehal* all other *mehals* are now under *Khas* management.

100. Inspite of reasons for fall in the forest revenue the amount of the total receipts was very fair. With experience and popularisation of the permit system, with the people beyond the border, it can be hoped that our forest revenue will expand from year to year. The total receipts from the forest (including our share of the *Feni* river tolls) amounted to Rs. 3,59,401 against Rs. 3,78,120 of the previous year. The State share of the *Feni* river tolls amounted to Rs. 5,620 against Rs. 5,643 of the previous year.

101. The decrease in the forest revenue is ascribed to :—

Reasons for fall in receipts.

(1) Insufficient rain on the hills in season and heavy rain out of season leading to water-scarcity or floods and hampering the export of timber and other forest produces.

(2) High price of corrugated iron due to the European war not enabling the people of the surrounding districts to construct tin-roofed houses, for which State timber was in great demand in previous years.

(3) Fall in the export of cotton and *til* which are generally exported on bamboo rafts indirectly affected the forest revenue.

(4) The worst fall in revenue was in the case of the *Manu* river *mehal*, where due to the prevalence of theft of timber from floating rafts many well-to-do traders had to withdraw from the trade.

(5) The conduct of the drift-wood contractors under the Sylhet Forest Department which caused loss and harassment to the traders exporting forest produce from our hills.

(6) The disinclination of the Sylhet forest authorities to recognise the State registered marks on forest produce exported from the State forests. It may be noted that though the Chief Commissioner of Assam was pleased to pass clear orders that the State registered marks should be recognised the Forest Department of Sylhet has not yet given effect to them. Timbers bearing our marks are stopped in their passage down the Sylhet portion of the rivers and full royalty levied on them by the Sylhet Forest Department as if the timbers belonged to their forest.

(7) The stoppage of the route for export from Bachaibari out-post in Khowai towards Rajarbazar in Sylhet district by the Sylhet forest authorities with the object of creating a reserved forest just beyond our border.

(8) The Longai complications due chiefly to the work of the Damcherra forest staff.

We are in correspondence with the Sylhet authorities on these matters and hope to come to a satisfactory arrangement with them at an early date.

102. But the income from the sale of permits was satisfactory and partially made up for the shortage, the total receipts being Rs. 65,037 against Rs. 54,409 of the previous year. The agency system for the sale of permits on commission has proved a success and the major portion of the income from sale of permits was obtained through them.

103. The fall in the *Feni* receipts has been a matter of anxiety for the State. For while the revenue from all other river *mehals* within the State has been increasing gradually that from the *Feni*, which is under Government management, is not showing any sign of expansion. The situation calls for an enquiry by higher authorities. The matter has been brought to the notice of the Divisional Commissioner and it is hoped that steps would be taken to remedy the state of things.

IV. Trade and Manufacture.

104. The principal exports were, as before, rice, timber, cotton oil seeds and various kinds of forest produce. The export of cotton during the last five years is shown below :—

1322 T.E.	1323 T.E.	1324 T.E.	1325 T.E.	1326 T.E.
93,559 mds.	44,659 mds.	20,171 mds.	57,939 mds.	18,951 mds.

105. It will be seen that the export of cotton from the State during the year was unprecedentedly small. The gross outturn was much below the normal and it is apprehended that the continued drop in the market due to the war has been discouraging the grower. The export of oilseeds came up to 21,902 maunds against 17,717 in the previous year.

106. The chief articles of import were, as before, ordinary necessities of life. Among the principal manufactures may be mentioned cotton fabrics made by hill-men and articles of cane and wicker-work, also dug-outs and other things made of wood.

V. Public Works.

107. The statement XX in the Appendix gives details of the works executed during the year, the total expenditure being Rs. 92,579 against Rs. 96,791 in the previous year. There were however certain unadjusted advances in the name of contractors for works done during the year. The amounts of these advances have not been shown in the expenditure noted above.

108. With the object of better supervision of works in the interior one supervisor and two overseers were added to the staff but the staff could not be fully utilised as certain important works taken up during the year had to be stopped on account of financial difficulty.

109. The following important works were completed during the year under review :—

- Works.
1. The Carmichael Bridge.
 2. „ Lakshminarayan temple.
 3. „ Sonamura-Udaipur Road.
 4. „ Sonamura School House.
 5. „ Sonamura Circuit Bungalow.
 6. „ Post office house at Kailashahar.

110. The following important works were in progress during the year :—

- Works in progress.
1. Diversion of the Howra river at Agartala.
 2. Diversion of the Khowai river at Khowai.
 3. A residential building for His Highness at Kunjaban.

CHAPTER V—REVENUE AND FINANCES.

I. Revenue.

111. The gross collections of the State during the year amounted to Rs. 10,39,778 against Rs. 10,85,894 and Rs. 10,35,456 respectively, of the previous two years and Rs. 10,60,860 the quinquennial average. The budget estimate of the year was Rs. 10,50,000.

Serial number.	HEADS OF REVENUE.	1325 T.E.	1326 T.E.	AS COMPARED WITH 1325 T.E.		REMARKS.
				Increase.	Decrease.	
1	Land Revenue	3,51,814	3,77,618	25,804	—	
2	Rents of markets	6,591	6,382	—	209	
3	Family Tax in the hills	40,142	43,146	3,004	—	
4	Toll on forest produce	3,55,094	3,32,571	—	22,523	
5	Do. Do. on the Feni River	5,643	5,620	—	23	
6	Elephant & buffalo grazing					
	Mehal	7,927	7,175	—	752	
7	Thatching grass Mehal	5,922	5,160	—	762	
8	Reserved <i>Sal</i> trees	3,534	8,875	5,341	—	
9	Tax on cotton and oil-seeds	1,24,218	63,378	—	60,840	
10	Royalty on elephants caught ...	500	—	—	500	
11	Adda Mehal	18,633	18,921	288	—	
12	Excise	22,622	18,646	—	3,976	
13	Stamps and Court-fees	55,446	56,481	1,035	—	
14	Law and Justice (Fines)	2,485	2,914	429	—	
15	Process fees	10,191	10,007	—	184	
16	Registration	9,572	8,873	—	699	
17	Jail	931	1,254	323	—	
18	Cattle pounds	4,819	3,686	—	1,133	
19	Nazars	21,927	31,184	9,257	—	
20	Agriculture	344	318	—	26	
21	Miscellaneous	37,539	37,569	30	—	
	TOTAL	10,85,894	10,39,778	45,511	91,627	Net decrease 46,116

N. B.—The above are *Sumar* figures which slightly differ from the *Tauji* figures. The *Sumar* includes deposits while the *Tauji* excludes deposits and includes adjustments of suspense accounts.

112. It will be seen from the above that there was during the year a total increase of Rs. 45,511 in respect of nine heads of income against a decrease of Rs. 91,627 in regard to twelve. The heavy falling off in the year was mainly due to the decline in the income from royalty on cotton besides that in forest revenue both necessarily unstable sources of income. The failure of cotton market and the comparatively dull trade in timber appear both to have been the indirect result of the great European war. It is gratifying however that both land revenue and house tax showed a steady increase inspite of various adverse circumstances including heavy floods in different parts of the State. The increase in Nazar was due to the settlement operations of the year.

II. Finances.

113. The usual comparative financial statement showing receipts and expenditure for the State and the attached Zemindaries is given on the next page with short explanatory notes.

114. It will be seen from the statement that the opening balance of the year was Rs. 6,08,564 against Rs. 5,19,475. Including law charges recovered, refunds and deposits, the total of the receipt side was Rs. 26,36,337 against Rs. 24,51,891 in the previous year. The variations in receipts have been explained in Sec. I above and in Chapter VIII.

115. The total expenditure was Rs. 19,57,077 against Rs. 18,43,327 of the previous year, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 6,79,260 against Rs. 6,08,564 and of this Rs. 1,41,910 was in cash and Rs. 5,37,350 in bonds and advances. The last figure includes a large amount of unadjusted payments for State purposes. The advances issued during the year amounted to Rs. 1,31,275.

Receipts.	1325 T. E.	1326 T. E.	Expenditure.	1325 T. E.	1326 T. E.
1. Opening balance :—			1. General Administration charges :—		
(1) State ...	4,02,015	4,66,524	(a) State ...	2,82,723	2,94,759
(2) Zemindaries ...	1,17,460	1,42,040	(b) Zemindaries :—		
Total ...	5,19,475	6,08,564	1. Cost of management ...	1,24,692	1,30,535
			2. Cost of litigation ...	92,967	1,30,869
			Total ...	5,00,382	5,56,163
			2. Revenue and Taxes on account of the Zemindaries ...	2,30,478	2,62,978
			3. Public Works :—		
			(a) State ...	96,323	92,250
			(b) Zemindaries ...	46,448	55,557
			Total ...	1,42,771	1,47,807
			4. Municipality :—		
			(a) State ...	8,000	8,848
			5. Education :—		
			(a) State ...	64,477	66,884
			(b) Zemindaries ...	8,389	8,307
			Total ...	72,866	751,91
2. Income :—			6. Medical :—		
(1) State ...	10,85,894	10,39,778	(a) State ...	47,103	42,491
(2) Zemindaries ...	7,48,826	8,75,437	(b) Zemindaries ...	7,941	7,920
Total ...	18,34,720	19,15,215	Total ...	55,044	50,411
			7. Survey and Settlement :—		
			(a) State ...	7,533	10,358
			(b) Zemindaries ...	5,362	3,542
			Total ...	12,895	13,900
			8. Agriculture :—		
			9. Religious Expenses :—		
			(a) State ...	49,002	52,168
			(b) Zemindaries ...	2,905	8,116
			Total ...	51,907	60,284
3. Law charges recovered :—			10. Sultanat :—		
(1) State ...	—	—	(a) State ...	40,201	54,054
(2) Zemindaries ...	48,024	47,920	11. Purchase of Landed Tenures :—		
			(a) State ...	1,175	2,529
			(b) Zemindaries ...	4,828	115
			Total ...	6,003	2,644
			12. Pension and Gratuity :—		
			(a) State ...	26,981	30,202
			(b) Zemindaries ...	3,980	3,526
			Total ...	30,961	33,728
			13. Ordinary Sansar charges :—		
			(a) Ordinary expenses on account of His Highness and family including Jibraj Bahadur ...	60,631	64,457
			(b) Other branches of the Raj family ...	1,49,041	1,35,129
			(c) Thakurs ...	32,526	32,814
			(d) Sansar office establishment ...	8,577	8,627
			(e) Electric Light ...	28,166	34,030
			(f) Miscellaneous ...	44,693	49,913
			Total ...	3,23,634	3,24,970
			14. Charity and Donation :—		
			(a) State ...	15,845	12,617
			(b) Zemindaries ...	2,090	1,137
			Total ...	17,935	13,754
			15. His Highness's Nij Tahabil (Privy purse) including expenses on journeys	1,38,011	1,13,633
			16. Liabilities liquidated including payment of interest on loans and repayment of deposits :—		
			(a) State ...	58,053	53,723
			(b) Zemindaries ...	1,40,990	1,70,168
			Total ...	1,99,043	2,23,891
			17. Remission of loans and advances :—		
			(a) State ...	4,282	—
			(b) Zemindaries ...	2,469	690
			Total ...	6,751	690
			18. Miscellaneous :—		
			(a) State ...	—	6,419
			(b) Zemindaries ...	5,528	6,628
			Total ...	5,528	13,047
5. Deposits :—			19. Closing Balance :—		
(1) State ...	17,896	40,588	(a) State ...	1,13,194	69,553
(2) Zemindaries ...	28,066	931	In cash ...	3,63,330	4,40,560
Total ...	45,962	41,519	In bonds and advances ...	4,66,524	5,10,113
			Total ...	4,66,524	5,10,113
			(b) Zemindaries :—		
			In cash ...	38,403	72,357
			In bonds and advances ...	1,03,637	96,790
			Total ...	1,42,040	1,69,147
6. Loans :—			GRAND TOTAL ...	24,51,891	26,36,337
(1) State ...	—	—			
(2) Zemindaries ...	—	20,000			
GRAND TOTAL ...	24,51,891	26,36,337			

116. The striking variations in expenditure are noticed below :—

i. ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES :—

117. There has been an increase both in the State and Zemindaries due partly to certain reforms and improvements introduced and carried out during the year; e. g., the reorganization of the State services, the introduction of the graded system of pay in several branches, including the ministerial staff; the Khas management of the forests; the creation of two administrative centres at Amarpur and Kalyanpur; and some new appointments in the Military Department. The general rise of prices also accounts for the increased expenditure to some extent. The heaviest expenditure was the cost of litigation in the Zemindaries which was inevitable as suits had to be filed to save limitation for due to floods and scarcity usual amicable collections could not be made and arrears accumulated.

ii. REVENUE AND TAXES :—

The increase was due to payment of arrears of cess revenue which was not paid during the previous year and to the increased assessment of income tax.

iii. PUBLIC WORKS :—

STATE—The decrease was merely apparent. The actual expenditure was greater. Rs. 14,800 was advanced to the contractors but all their accounts could not be adjusted before the close of the year.

ZEMINDARIES—The increase was solely due to the very heavy expenditure of Rs. 26,526 incurred for the Gumti embankment. There was a decrease of about Rs. 4,000 under other heads.

iv. EDUCATION :—

The increase was due to the cost of the journey home of Mr. Shomendra Chandra Deb Barman, the Thakur student, who was at the Harvard University in the United States of America, and to the raising of the Bilonia School to be a H. E. School.

v. MEDICAL :—

STATE—Fortunately there was no need for calling in external medical aid for the Raj family and this explains the decrease.

vi. SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT :—

STATE—The increase was due to the entertainment of a separate Settlement Officer and one Assistant Settlement Officer.

ZEMINDARIES—The Dandra settlement having been nearly finished the cost under this head decreased.

vii. RELIGIOUS EXPENSES :—

STATE—The increase was consequent on the special expenses incurred on the occasion of the dedication of the new Lakshminarayan temple and to certain other special ceremonies performed.

ZEMINDARIES—The increase is merely apparent as payment on account of certain grants that was not made in the previous year was made during the year under report.

viii. SULTANAT :—

STATE—The increase was due to the purchase and repairs of motor cars. Some new tents also were purchased.

ix. PENSION* AND GRATUITY :—

STATE—Some high officers retired during the year. This accounts for the increase under this head.

x. SANSAR CHARGES :—

On the whole there has been little difference between the total expenditure during the year under report and that of the previous year though there have been noticeable fluctuations under certain minor heads. The increase under electric light was due partly to the cost of a new engine.

xi. HIS HIGHNESS'S NIJTAHABIL AND TOUR EXPENSES (*including expenditure on account of pilgrimages*) :—

The actual expenditure is more than what has been shewn here. The full account of some tours and pilgrimages was not prepared and examined within the year. Rs. 88,344 stands as unadjusted advance on this account.

xii. LIABILITIES :—The payment under this head includes Rs. 85,508 paid towards the liquidation of the Bank of Bengal loan and Rs. 35,197 on account of Nij-tahabil dues. The Bank loan now stands at one lac only. Other payments were on account of old P. W. D. bills and various other smaller liabilities.

xiii. MISCELLANEOUS :—This includes expenditure in connection with the relief of distress caused by the floods of the year, the compilation of the Rajmala, the upkeep of the Khoshbag and other small payments. It may be noted that payment for relief of distress was made (1) as gratuitous relief (2) as advances. The amount of advances is included under the sub head "bonds and advances" under head 19 "Closing balance" and is Rs. 10,891. (minus realisations made within the year.)

CHAPTER VI—VITAL STATISTICS.

118. Two new dispensaries were opened at the newly-created Charitable Dispensaries. Sub-Divisions at Amarpur and Kalyanpur, making a total of 16 dispensaries in the State. It may be noted that 6 charitable dispensaries are also maintained in Chakla Roshnabad Estates.

119. The attendance of new patients in the several dispensaries as compared with the same in the previous year will appear from the following table.

PATIENTS.	1325 T.E.			1326 T.E.		
	Outdoor.	Indoor.	Total.	Outdoor.	Indoor.	Total.
	79,217	558	79,775	79,456	594	80,050
Daily average	217.03	1.52	218.55	217.68	1.61	219.29

The figures of daily average noted against 1325 T. E. in the last Administration Report were incorrect.

120. The total outdoor attendance (new and old) was 1,28,626 Total outdoor attendance. against 1,30,115 in the previous year, the daily average being 353.6 against 356.4.

121. The total number of indoor patients, including previous Total indoor attendance. year's pending cases was 594 against 558 in the previous year; of them 468 were cured, 99 were relieved or otherwise discharged, 20 died and 7 were under treatment at the close of the year.

122. There were 1,046 operations including 42 major cases against 1,292 in the previous year.

Surgical operations.
123. 95 Police cases were admitted during the year against 126 in the previous year, including 12 postmortem cases against 38 in the preceding year.

Police cases.
124. The number of out-door patients treated was 16,018 against 14,107, the daily average of attendance being 68.22 against 58.06 in the previous year. The indoor patients numbered 556 against 535 in the preceding year; of them 432 were cured, 98 were relieved or otherwise discharged, 20 died and 6 remained under treatment at the close of the year. The daily average of indoor patients was 16.13 against 17.68 in the previous year. The total expenditure on this institution amounted to Rs. 5,606 against Rs. 5,698 in the preceding year.

V. M. Hospital.
125. The year was generally unhealthy. There was an outbreak of cholera in epidemic form in the Sadar and Kailashahar Divisions. There was a good deal of malarial fever in the town of Agartala and in the interior during the rains. Stray cases of small-pox were also reported.

Public health.
126. 7,576 persons were vaccinated during the year under report against 6,627 in the previous year. Of them 6,637 were successful. The passing of the Vaccination Act making vaccination generally compulsory has increased the number of vaccinations. Total expenditure on this account was Rs. 675-8-3 against Rs. 449-9-6 in the previous year.

Vaccination.
127. 1,421 births and 1,526 deaths were reported during the year against 1,144 births and 1,419 deaths in the previous year. The ratio per thousand of population works at 6.18 of births and 6.64 of deaths against 4.98 and 6.17 in the previous year. It may be noted here that these figures can hardly be depended upon.

Births and deaths.
128. The total expenditure for medical aid within the State amounted to Rs. 42,491 against Rs. 47,103 in the year previous.

Expenditure.
129. There were 3 Kavirajes and 2 Homœopaths attached to this Department all being posted at the capital.

Ayurvedic and Homœopathic Branches.
130. Dr. M. M. Majumdar L.M.S., the chief medical officer, was out on tour for 16 days and his assistant Dr. S. K. Datta, L.M.S., for 28 days. Dr. Majumdar also toured with His Highness for 92 days. 12 outlying dispensaries were inspected during the year.

CHAPTER VII—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

131. The returns XXIV and XXV in the appendix are education statements. The number of schools in the year under review was 134 against 138 of the previous year and the numerical strength 5,185 against 5925 excluding private Patshalas which numbered 29 with 527 pupils on their rolls.

132. The B. K. Institution at Bilonia and the R. K. Institution at Kailashahar were raised to be H. E. schools. The Bilonia School obtained provisional recognition by the University for 2 years. Affiliation has been applied for for the

High schools.

Kailashahar School also. So there are now 3 H. E. Schools within the State. The number of pupils in the 3 schools was 664, and the daily average of attendance 550.53. The M. E. School at Sonamura has had an upper class added to it and it is expected that ere long this school will also be a H. E. school. 33 students were sent up to sit for the Matriculation Examination (of these 30 students belonged to the U. K. Academy and the rest to the Bilonia School) of the year 1916-17, but owing to the leakage of questions the holding of the examination has been postponed.

133. According to the old Hindu practice education in all its branches has hitherto been free within the State. .
 Introduction of fees But with a view principally to encourage self help and also to make provision for the various needs of the students, e. g., in connection with sports and physical exercise and generally to provide for other things conducive to the general well-being of the students a scale of fees was introduced only in the H. E. schools from the beginning of the year under report. The proceeds are not to be counted as part of the general revenue but the receipts from each school are to be kept apart as a school fund for that school. The rate of fee is half of that prevailing in the nearest Government H. E. School in the neighbouring British district of Tippera namely the Comilla Zilla School. It may be noted that except the H. E. schools all other kinds of schools are free and even at the H. E. schools the indigenous inhabitants of the State e. g., the Thakurs, the Tripuras, the Manipuris and the hill people have been exempted from paying fees. It may also be noted that the usual annual expenditure on account of the H. E. schools in teachers' pay, the cost of other establishments maintained, the construction and maintenance of the school buildings with necessary furniture is to be met as now out of the educational grant in the annual budget. The school fund is to be utilised only for improvement work other than those mentioned above.

134. There were 5 M. E. schools with 642 boys on the rolls as against 4 with 569 boys in the previous year. The
 M. E. Schools average daily attendance was 418.64

135. The L. V. School at Khowai was raised to the status of M. E. school.

136. There were 2 H. V. Schools with 123 boys and average daily attendance of 90.73. These schools are gradually being converted into M. E. Schools.
 H. V. Schools.

137. The number of L. V. Schools in the year under review was 18 as against 16 and the number of pupils on the rolls, 1,127 against 1,079 of the previous year. The
 L. V. Schools. average of daily attendance in these schools was 876.96.

138. There were 88 *Patshalas* with a strength of 2,216 against 94 with 2,807 pupils in the preceding year. The
Patshalas. average of daily attendance was 1663.93. The decrease in the number is small and is explained easily. 4 *Patshalas* were amalgamated to form 2 L. V. schools and two other schools did not work.

139. There was one M. E. School and 11 *Patshalas* for girls against 1 H. V. School and 11 *Patshalas*. The Girls' Schools. 'Tulsibati Girls' School which was a H. V. School for girls was raised to be a M. E. School. It had 76 girls on the roll and an average of 50·10 attending per day. The school is doing good work but to make it more suitable for the education of grown-up girls it has been decided to gradually replace the male teachers by competent Mistresses.

140. The number of girls in the 11 *Patshalas* was 169 with a daily average of 114·86. Besides in some of the *Patshalas* for boys there are girl students also.

141. 327 pupils sat for the local scholarship examinations against 407 of the previous year. Of these 210 came out successful, the number including 10 girls. The results of the examinations are given below :—

M. E. Examination	passed	...	...	13 boys
H. V.	"	"	...	10 "
L. V.	"	"	...	40 "
<i>Patshalas</i>	"	"	...	147 "

142. 16 boys and 3 girls obtained scholarships varying from Rs. 2 to Rs. 5 tenable for 2 to 4 years.

143. There were 6 schools in the year which might be placed under the denomination of schools for special training. Special schools. These were the Woodburn Artisan School, the two Sanskrit *Tols* and the three Madrassas. The Artisan School had eleven students on the roll against the same number in the previous year. The smallness of the number of students is due to the fact that the students coming as they do from the less advanced classes of society are generally unwilling to join without a stipend.

144. Of the students at the Sanskrit Chatuspathis, 5 sat for the Intermediate examinations 2 in Smriti, 1 in Kāvya and 2 in Vyakarana, while two more sat for the first examination in Kāvya and Vyakarana. The result were 11 passed and 3 got scholarships.

145. Considering his age the young Jubaraj Bahadar is making satisfactory progress in English, Bengali, Arithmetic, Geography, Natural History, History, Physiology, Drawing, Story-telling and sports. He can now read English satisfactorily and speak also. He writes to dictation and has a special aptitude for drawing and out-door games including riding exercises. The education of the Jubaraj Goswami Bahadur.

146. Of the four Kumars receiving collegiate education, one sat for the Intermediate Examination in Arts of the Calcutta University. One did not appear in the examination, while two others were to be promoted to the second year class for the Intermediate Examination in Arts and Science respectively. Other Kumars.

147. Two young Kumars were sent to the Hastings School, Calcutta, with the abolition of the Calcutta Kumar Boarding establishment in July last. One Kumar has been promoted to the form IV of the said school and is progressing well, and the other was removed from the school and is prosecuting his studies at home.

148. The young Kumars receiving education here number 10 ;
 The Palace Day School for the young Kumars. 4 belong to Class I, one to the Infant class (A) and the rest to the Infant class (B).

149. We have one Thakur boy in the third year (B.A.) of the
 The Thakur boys. Dacca College and another in the first year class (I. A.) of the South Subarban College, Bhowanipur. There are 3 boys in the Bolpur Brahmacharyyasram, and the sixth boy belongs to the Bengal Land Survey School, Mainamoti, Comilla. They are all in receipt of stipends from the State.

150. The Thakur Boarding Institution had twenty-nine boarders
 The Thakur Boarding Institution. on the roll against 26 of the previous year. The average monthly attendance was 27. Two boys were sent up for the Matriculation examination, but the examination being delayed, they are now preparing to sit for it.

151. There were 85 scholarships enjoyed by the different classes
 Scholarships and stipends. and communities of the State. The cost under this head was Rs. 7,827 against Rs. 8,561 in the previous year.

152. The comparative statement below will show the number of
 Non-Bengalee students. non-Bengalee students receiving instruction in the different schools of the State. There were 21 hill scholarships varying from Rs. 2 to Rs. 5, granted to deserving students in the interior.

Serial number.	Nationality.	NUMBER OF STUDENTS.		Remarks.
		Past year.	Present year.	
1.	Thakurs...	183	175	
2.	Manipuris ...	796	863	
3.	Tripuras...	472	325	
4.	Reangs ...	8	6	
5.	Kukis ...	35	0	
6.	Others ...	56	34	
	Total ...	1,550	1,403	

153. Only six teachers sat for the Guru-training examination for
 Guru-training examination. Primary school teachers, held in March last, of whom two came out successful, and were both placed in the first division. It was so long optional with the Gurus but from the present year the examination has been made compulsory for them,

154. 145 students from the hills appeared in the Reward examina-
 Reward examination. tion held for them in the several centres. Of whom 96 obtained rewards. But as encouragement there were money rewards given to the unsuccessful students as well. The teachers were also rewarded.

155. The inspecting staff consisted of one Inspector of Schools,
 Inspection. one Deputy Inspector and one Sub-Inspector. They inspected the schools twice during the year. The gentleman appointed as the Inspector of Schools in the begining of the year, having left the State service in course of a few months, the post was vacant for some time, and the Deputy Inspector had to

be absent on leave. So the schools could not be inspected oftener. The High English School at Sadar and a few primary and secondary schools were visited by the Chief Dewan and the Political Agent. One other distinguished visitor of the schools at Sadar was Mr. K. C. De, C.I.E., I.C.S., Commissioner, Chittagong Division. The Commissioner made some valuable suggestions during his visit with regard to the constitution of the classes in the H. E., and M. E. Schools. And the Department is trying to conform to these suggestions.

156. There is a public library at each of the Divisional headquarters; at Sadar there are two libraries one of English books only and the other of Bengali and Sanskrit books. The number of books in the English library was 4,368 and at the Bengali library 1,463. There were 6 daily, 10 weekly, 1 fortnightly and 7 monthly papers subscribed in the English library.

157. The total expenditure incurred by the Education Department in the course of the year 1326 T. E., was Rs. 66,884 against Rs. 64,477 of the previous year. The increase was due to the Bilonia School and to special stipends to Thakur boys. The Department had also to purchase some books for the libraries.

158. Some important details of educational expenditure are :—

1. Secondary Education	...	...	...	Rs. 16,515
2. Primary Education	...	...	...	" 17,588
3. Schools for special training	...	...	...	" 2,612
4. Boarding Institution	...	...	...	" 6,861
5. Education of the Jubraj Bahadur and other Kumars	...	...	...	" 8,366
6. Scholarships and Stipends...	...	...	...	" 7,827
7. Libraries	...	...	...	" 3,125

159. At the begining of the year under review with His Highness's approval certain broad principles were laid down which are to be followed in the carrying out of the educational work of the State. The most important features being :—

1. Gradually to raise the M. E. schools at the Divisional headquarters to be H. E. schools.
2. To increase the number of M. E. schools at convenient centres by converting where necessary the H. V. schools into M. E. schools.
3. To improve the condition of the *Patshalas* and raise them to be L. V. schools, and, where possible, to amalgamate two or more *Patshalas* into a L. V. school the *Patshala* standard being taught in the lower forms of the L. V. school.
4. To make arrangement for the teaching of English, where possible, at least as an optional subject in the L. V. schools.
5. To introduce Sanitary and Agriculture Primers as text-books in the L. V. schools and generally to endeavour to give a practical turn to the instruction imparted.
6. To provide hostel accommodation in connection with the H. E. schools.
7. To arrange the course of studies and the medium of instruction

in such a way that the M. E. and the Primary schools may serve as feeder institutions to the H. E. schools.

8. To popularise school education among the hill-people and to endeavour to combine industrial instruction e. g., carpentry and bamboo and cane work with the book instruction.

160. To give effect to the idea stated in (7) above the classes and courses of studies have been arranged as follows :—

The first class of the M. E. school to correspond in all respects to class VI of the H. E. school. In the M. E. and other lower schools teaching English the medium of instruction to be the vernacular language except in the case of Arithmetic, Geography and English Grammar where Anglo-Vernacular text-books would be of greater help to the students, English being taught as a second language. And from class VII upwards in the H. E. schools all instructions to be given through the medium of the English language. With a view not to overtax the youthful brain Algebra, Geometry and Sanskrit have been omitted from the courses of studies prescribed for the classes below class VII and to help the boys in picking up practical information Mental Arithmetic and Suvankari rules and Sanitary Primers have been prescribed for the lower classes in H. E. Schools.

As a necessary factor of the above scheme the H. E. schools will contain from class X to class IV or III downwards and the M. E. Schools will contain from class VI to class I downwards with an infant class where necessary. Students will be able to go up for the L. V. examination from class IV and for the *Patshala* (Primary course) examination from class II of the M. E. school and from corresponding classes of other classes of lower schools. But no such appearance may be allowed from the H. E. schools.

One Thakur officer was deputed to look after the work of the scheme narrated in (8) above

CHAPTER VIII—ZEMINDARIES.

I. Chakla Roshnabad Estates.

161. Babu P. K. Das Gupta continued as Manager of the Estates assisted by three Assistant Managers posted at Management. Comilla, Feni and Mogra, each in charge of a division. The Sylhet zemindaries also came under Chakla management during the year under review with a Sub-Manager in immediate charge with head-quarters at Laharpur in Sylhet.

162. The gross revenue demand of the year including that of Laharpur division was Rs. 9,37,305 against Rs. 9,15,822 in the year previous, showing an increase of Rs. 2,14,761 and the total receipts amounted to Rs. 8,76,160 against Rs. 7,50,404 in 2325 T. E. being an increase of Rs. 1,25,756. This indicates a substantial recovery after two bad years of extraordinary flood. But for the October flood in the year under report which affected a large area in the districts of Tippera and Noakhali the receipts would have shown further improvement. The receipts from Chakla Roshnabad and Laharpur zemindaries are shown in the figures below :—

	Chakla Roshnabad.	Laharpur.
1325 T. E.	Rs. 6,87,115.	Rs. 63,289.
1326 T. E.	Rs. 7,91,462.	Rs. 84,698.

163. The total expenditure during the year under review was Rs. 9,21,023 of which Rs. 2,62,978 was on account of land revenue and cesses. Repayment of debts amounted to Rs. 1,40,970 including Rs. 35,197 on account of Nij Tahabil debts. The management charges amounted to Rs. 1,30,081 or 14·8 percent of the total receipts against 15·7 in the year previous. Other items will be found in the financial statement.

164. The Bank of Bengal loan has been reduced to one lac, the repayment during the year under review being Rs. 75,000 on account of principal and Rs. 10,509 on account of interest and commission. Nine lacs have been repaid in nine years from 1908 when the loan was obtained.

165. The results of the year's settlement operations are summarized below :—

Kinds of settlement.		Addition to Rent.	Nazar realised.
1. Railway	...	5	67
2. Kaemi Settlement in town	...	5	67
3. Taksisi settlement in town	...	23	4,474
4. Ordinary Do	...	74	841
5. Khaspatit	...	1,791	10,456
6. Enhancement of rent	...	635	4,994
7. Resettlement of auction purchased holdings	...	147	6,414
8. Non-rent paying holdings	...	14	0
9. Kaemi settlement in Mafussil	...	0	400
10. Taskhichi settlement in Mafussil	...	18	842
11. Ijara settlement	...	552	0
		3,259	18,488

CHAPTER IX—MISCELLANEOUS.

166. Babu Asita Chandra Chaudhuri, B. A., in charge of Education and other Departments of the Chief Dewan's office
Tours. was out on tour for 10 days in the Sadar and the Kailashahar Divisions.

167. The tours of the Divisional Officers and their Assistants are shown below :—

	State.				
Sadar—	Divisional Officer	...	...	...	15 days.
	Second "	...	...	...	43 "
Kailashahar—	Divisional	"	...	...	44 "
	Second	"	...	...	13 "
Sonamura—	Divisional	"	...	...	28 "
	Second	"	...	...	41 "

Bilonia—	Divisional Officer	...	...	...	79 days.
Dharmanagar—	"	"	...	...	37 "
Udaipur—	"	"	...	...	43 "
Sabrum—	"	"	...	...	79 "
Khowai—	"	"	...	...	45 "
Amarpur—	Sub-Divisional	"	...	...	30 "
Kalyanpur—	"	"	...	...	14 "

Chakla Roshnabad.

Assistant Manager, Central Division	...	...	...	90 "
" Southern	"	...	...	81 "
" Northern	"	...	...	103 "
Sub Manager, Laharpur	...	...	...	121 "

DATED, AGARTALA, }
The 9th July, 1917. }

P. K. DAS GUPTA,
Chief Dewan.